

Amendments to Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

1. (currently amended) A retraction device for gynecological or perineal surgery on a patient comprising:
a one-piece frame hinged on a handle and slidably attached to a support element, the hinge allowing adjustment of the position of the handle with respect to the frame, the frame and handle requiring no assembly during the surgical procedure, the frame including a track extending along the length of the frame; and at least one retractor slidably mounted mountable in multiple positions along the length of on the track by a jig that does not contact the patient.
2. (original) A retraction device according to claim 1 further comprising:
a ratchet mechanism for hinging the frame to the handle.
3. (currently amended) A retraction device according to claim 1 further comprising:
an anterior a retractor having curved blades means for holding a longer second blade thereby protruding farther into the surgical field. that fits into a groove formed by the curved blades.
4. (withdrawn) A retraction device according to claim 3, wherein the curved blades are hinged to a handle of the anterior retractor by a ratchet mechanism.
5. (withdrawn) A retraction device according to claim 1, wherein the track includes a rail.
6. (withdrawn) A retraction device according to claim 1, wherein the track includes fissures for holding suture material during surgery.
7. (withdrawn) A retraction device according to claim 1 further comprising a posterior retractor.
8. (withdrawn) A retraction device according to claim 1 further comprising at least one side retractor.
9. (original) A retraction device according to claim 1, wherein the track jig includes a groove for slidably mounting the jig to the track.

10. (withdrawn) A retraction device according to claim 1, wherein the jig includes a lock.

11. (canceled)

12. (currently amended) A retraction device according to claim [[11]] 1, wherein the support element is a flat sheet for retaining the device in a position by the weight of the patient.

13. (withdrawn, currently amended) A retraction device according to claim [[11]] 1, wherein the support element is a bar for attaching to an operating table.

14. (currently amended) A retraction device for gynecological or perineal procedures on a patient comprising:
a one-piece frame attached to a handle; and
at least one retractor adjustably mounted to the frame on a lengthwise track.

15. (withdrawn) A retraction device according to claim 14, wherein the frame includes one or more fissures for holding suture material during surgery.

16. (original) A retraction device according to claim 14, wherein the at least one retractor is adjustably mounted to the frame with a jig.

17. (withdrawn) A retraction device according to claim 16, wherein the jig includes a lock.

18. (original) A retraction device according to claim 16, wherein the frame includes a track, and the at least one retractor is adjustably mounted to the track with the jig.

19. (withdrawn) A retraction device according to claim 18, wherein the track includes a rail, and the at least one retractor is adjustably mounted to the rail with the jig.

20. (original) A retraction device according to claim 16, wherein the frame includes a slot, and the jig is positioned in the slot.

21. (withdrawn) A retraction device according to claim 20, wherein the slot is corrugated.

22. (withdrawn) A retraction device according to claim 16, wherein a portion of edges of the frame are corrugated, and the jig is configured to contact the edges of the frame.

23. (original) A retraction device according to claim 14 further comprising:
a support element attached to the handle for retaining the device in a position.

24. (original) A retraction device according to claim 23, wherein the support element includes a sheet capable of retaining the device using the weight of the patient.

25. (withdrawn) A retraction device according to claim 23, wherein the support element includes a sheet attached to at least one rod, the at least one rod configured to fit into a track.

26. (withdrawn) A retraction device according to claim 23, wherein the support element includes a bar attachable to a table.

27. (original) A retraction device according to claim 23, wherein the support element is attached to the handle with a bracket.

28. (withdrawn) A retraction device according to claim 23, wherein the support element is attached to the handle with a jig.

29. (original) A retraction device according to claim 14, wherein the frame is attached to the handle with a hinge.

30. (withdrawn) A retraction device according to claim 29, wherein the hinge includes a ratchet mechanism.

31. (original) A retraction device according to claim 14, wherein one or more retractors have a curved blade, and a retractor-handle attached to the frame.

32. (original) A retraction device according to claim 31, wherein the retractor-handle has a groove along a portion of a length of the retractor-handle, a portion of the groove having differential width.

33. (original) A retraction device according to claim 31, wherein the retractor-handle is attached to the frame with a jig.

34. (original) A retraction device according to claim 31, wherein the retractor-handle is attached to the curved blade with a hinge.

35. (withdrawn) A retraction device according to claim 34, wherein the hinge includes a ratchet mechanism.

36. (original) A retraction device according to claim 34, wherein the hinge is a ball-type hinge.

37. (original) A retraction device according to claim 31 further comprising an anterior retractor.

38. (withdrawn) A retraction device according to claim 31 further comprising a posterior retractor.

39. (withdrawn) A retraction device according to claim 31 further comprising at least one side retractor.

40. (original) A retraction device according to claim 31, wherein the retractor is configured with a curved blade forming a groove capable of supporting another blade.

41. (currently amended) A method of retracting vaginal or perineal walls of a patient comprising:

providing a retraction device comprising:

a frame having a lengthwise track, and

a plurality of retractors mounted on the frame; and

retracting the vaginal walls with the retractors, such that the frame maintains a separation of the retractors and the vaginal walls.

42. (original) A method according to claim 41, wherein the retraction device is further provided with a handle for mounting the frame in a desired position.

43. (original) A method according to claim 41, wherein the retraction device is further provided with means for adjustably mounting the retractors on the frame.

44. (new) A retraction device for gynecological or perineal surgery on a patient comprising:

a frame hinged on a handle, the frame including a track; at least one retractor slidably mounted on the track by a jig that does not contact the patient; and at least one retractor having curved blades for holding a longer blade that fits into at least one groove formed by the curved blades.

45. (new) A retraction device according to claim 31 wherein the retractor comprises a retractor blade having grooves along the edges of the blade for inserting an extension blade.

46. (new) A retraction device of claim 44 wherein at least one groove is formed along the lengthwise edge of the retractor blade.

47. (new) A retraction device of claim 46 wherein a groove is formed along each of the two lengthwise edges of the retractor blade.

48. (new) A surgical retraction device comprising a frame with a handle and

(a) one or more retractors having a blade; and

(b) lengthwise positioning means for positioning retractors along the length of a frame; and

- (c) adjustable support means for positioning and supporting the frame adjacent to a patient; and
 - (d) hinging means for adjusting the angle of the frame relative to the handle; and
 - (e) widening means for adjusting the angle of a retractor relative to the frame thereby widening the surgical field;
- wherein at least one retractor includes an extension means for holding a second blade thereby increasing the effective length of the retractor and the depth of the surgical field.